



MINUTES
AD HOC COMMITTEE ON DIVERSITY
Friday, January 6, 2017 @ 11:30 a.m.
Council Conference Room, 10th Floor, City Hall

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 11:38 a.m.

Committee Members

Councilmember Carol Wood, Chair
Councilmember Patricia Spitzley-excused
Councilmember Jody Washington- excused

No quorum present.

Others Present

Sherrie Boak, Council Staff
Brandon Waddell, Assistant City Attorney
Stacey Locke, Peckham
Elaine Womboldt
Sandy Wolfe, Peckham
Mark Dotson, Assistant City Attorney- arrived at 11:50 a.m. left at 12:20 p.m.
Stephen Purchase
Guillermo Lopez
Tammy Lemmer, TCOA

Minutes

Minutes from December 16, 2016 placed on file.

Final Report to Council on Ad Hoc Committee Activities

Council Member Wood referenced the resolution, page 4 and the changes suggested from Todd Heywood to state “people living with HIV” and not stating “those with AIDS”. Mr. Lopez suggested including details on the re-enacted Cesar E. Chavez Memorial Observance Event at City Hall.

An earlier request for additional organization comments to be added to the report had not been received, so Council Member Wood encouraged participants to continue to work on a report and provide to her for the Council meeting on January 30, 2017. The deadline for the reports would be noon on January 26, 2017 to provide to Council staff.

The group reviewed the proposed resolution. Over 50 organizations were invited and attended periodically throughout the years, so the group was asked if a list of those should be added. It was a consensus to add a list of "Contributing Partners".

The group consensus was to add to the resolution action on the "Stand Strong Respect Michigan Reaffirming the Pledge".

Council Member Wood then informed the group, that since the Ad Hoc on Diversity is no longer active she will be discharging any discussion and action on the earlier request by Mr. Lopez to make the City of Lansing a Sanctuary City. The new Council President will be updated and this item will be discharged into Committee of the Whole, and if the new President chooses to discharge it to another committee that is their privilege. Mr. Dotson informed Council Member Wood that Mr. Smiertka is still reviewing it for legal ramifications. Mr. Lopez outlined his reasoning for presenting this to the Committee for support. Council Member Wood assured the group that if the topic comes up at the Council meeting on 1/9/2017 she will update the whole Council of her intentions to discharge to Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Guillermo informed the group that East Lansing and East Lansing Schools recently passed a resolution on inclusion and no discrimination, which he will get a copy of and provide to the group in the future.

Council Member Wood stated the recent changes to the report would be done by January 11, 2017 and to Council on January 30, 2017. The report will be formatted in resolution format and asked to be adopted.

Other

Council Member Wood encouraged the attendees to take copies of the flyers on the tables on outreach programs and domestic abuse.

Council Member Wood distributed copies of a draft Cesar Chavez Memorial Program for the March 31, 2017 event. Mr. Lopez provided an update on the program and potential speakers. Council Member Wood changed the sponsors removing the "Lansing Ad Hoc on Diversity" and suggested it could be changed to "Advisory Committee on Diversity".

Future Meetings

The group discussed topics, and meeting options. Once a month was proposed, but there was consideration to also to meeting more often. The group decided the first Friday of every month.

Council Member Wood noted that Council staff would email to the group, for January 30, 2017 passage the resolution report on the Ad Hoc activity. It was also finalized that the first meeting of the group as the *Advisory Committee on Diversity* will be February 3, 2017 in the City Council conference room. She stated she would reach out to City TV to attend to talk about future programming. In addition another future topic would be the Legal Housing Clinic from MSU, Mr. Brian Gilmore. Any additional Committee topics should be forwarded to Council Member Wood.

Updates

Mr. Lopez updated the group on the progress with the diversity issue at DeWitt Public Schools.

Mr. Dotson informed the group that Cooley Law School does not offer legal assistance on housing matters similar to what MSU does.

Ms. Lemmer referenced an article in the Lansing State Journal on the needs that face the elderly and the need for volunteers for TCOA.

Ms. Womboldt referred the group to a recent Lansing State Journal article on the documentation of domestic abuse and conflicts that occur.

Ms. Lemmer provided a flyer on an upcoming event.

Adjourn

Adjourn at 12:30 p.m.

Submitted by,

Sherrie Boak, Council Office Manager

Place on file 2/3/2017